

threat to his life and love. (I have quoted these particular passages from Bridges' material under my own *Rivalry* section because I believe this is the key to them.)

As again Bridges remarks, and my own experience endorses, a small child will speak to any strange *adult* and ask for help or protection, far more readily than to a strange child. The quoted behaviour of Gerald, Martin, Joseph, is a striking illustration here ; but Tommy and all the other two- and three-year-olds clung very closely to the skirts of the grown-ups when they first came. (There were a few children of this age who came towards the end of the period covered by the records, and are not quoted.) At this stage other children are *presumed* to be enemies, but adults are presumed to be lovers and protectors—at any rate, as against other children. (In the middle years of childhood, of course, say eight to twelve, the very reverse is true.)

In infancy and the first year or two after it, the child is undoubtedly orientated mainly to adults (parents). They are the sources of his joy and his safety. Other children, more especially younger ones, are at first felt to be mere intruders, whose presence stirs hostile wishes because of the dread of exclusion and of the loss of love. Friendly feelings are more readily shown towards older children.

I have elsewhere recorded a striking instance of how even the bodily weight and health of a child may be affected by the intense jealousy and anxiety aroused by the coming of a strange child to share the home.¹ In *Intellectual Growth in Young Children* I described the temporary disturbance of the mental life of Alice and of Phineas in the school when a new baby was born in their respective homes. Phineas had also a phase of great difficulty at home about this time, particularly with regard to food and feeding.

He would
not eat at all for a long time unless he was fed
on the lap like
the baby. And the story of Ursula shows how
strongly
the rivalry may be felt from time to time even
in a child
who enjoys exceptionally careful handling and
who is a loving
and tender child, able for the most part to feel
warmly maternal
and protective to the new-comer.

As regards the behaviour of the children in
the Malting
House School, the two youngest and smallest
children at the
beginning of the school were Dan and Tommy,
and it will

¹ *Health and Education in the Nursery*, pp. 239-240.